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THE LATIN COLUMN

TWO YEAR SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS that can at present offer only two years of Latin will hardly be wise in restricting their work to the beginner's book plus Caesar's Gallic War. A better scheme would select some book of readings dealing with various matters of Roman life and history in place of the Caesar, and, for the first year, a book giving stories to translate rather than separate sentences throughout, and giving work in English derivatives and other language relations. Illustrative material will properly be worked in, such as that given by the picture-book described in this column.

WHAT ARE GREEK AND LATIN GOOD FOR

This is the frank question asked and answered by Professor George Ragland in the Kentucky High School Quarterly for January, 1922. His paper is short, meaty, and readable, and therefore worth the attention of any Latin teacher. It is published by the department of education, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky.

A ROMAN PICTURE-BOOK

"The Roman civilization" is the title of a useful book edited by A. F. Giles. It is a little book of only 160 pages, and of some eight short chapters, telling in brief and clear form about the Roman state, Roman religion, law, Roman cities, commerce and industry, social and family life and education, buildings and works of art, and the army. But its best feature is a large number of very excellent photographic prints illustrating the topics presented. The book ought to prove stimulating in any class of High School Latin.

FOR LAW STUDENTS

High school students who are thinking about taking up law as their profession should by all means be advised to get all the Latin courses they can in school. In the University Latin is now required of those taking the combined A.B. LL.B. course, and similar requirements are made in other colleges. Aside from requirements, knowledge of Latin is useful to a law student. Modern law uses many terms taken over from the Latin. Modern books on law often quote the old Latin law-books without translation. One of the leading standard text-books on modern jurisprudence, written by T. E. Holland, can hardly be understood by a man who knows no Latin.

A LITTLE SUGGESTION

"The New Universities Dictionary," which the Greensboro News has recently been distributing through the State, includes some features which a Latin teacher might make use of with interest and profit. A list of foreign words and phrases gives a number of Latin proverbs and sayings. Another list of the most common abbreviations can also be related to the Latin work. For example, the expressions e. g., etc., Q. E. D., i. e. and others often used are given in full and explained.

HORACE'S IDEA OF A COUNTRY

"Hoc erat in votis: modus agri non ita magnus,
hortus ubi et tecto vicinus iugis aquae fons
et paulum silvae super his foret. Auctius atque.
di melius fecere. Bene est."

This may be read: "This was my prayer: a bit of ground not so large, a garden where, too, near the house should be a never-failing spring, and above these a little strip of woodland. The gods have done more generously and better for me. It is well."—G. A. H.

ENGLISH TEACHERS ATTENTION!

WITH THE FIRST ISSUE of the High School Journal next autumn, Miss Eleanor Stratton, vice-president of the North Carolina Council of teachers of English, will edit an "English Teachers' Page" for this publication.

Miss Stratton undertakes this duty at the request of the editors of the *High School Journal* and the English Council. That the page may be as useful as possible to teachers in the state, Miss Stratton urges that those interested in English work will write her freely of their views, will submit brief material at every opportunity, and, generally, hold themselves responsible, with her, for the success of the page. The page is to be open to all so far as space will permit.

Members of the English Council are urged to make use of the page as an open forum for their ideas. Write Miss Eleanor Stratton at Asheville High School now while the experiences of the year are fresh in mind. Suggest topics for discussion, pass on any new ideas as to teaching literature or composition, and throw out questions which you should like to have solved.

C. A. HIBBARD,
President, State Council of Teachers of English.